



Nicole M. Parra

California State Legislature * 30th Assembly District



Parra Notes

September 2, 2005

I hope you are all doing well this week and that your family is safe and sound. It's obviously been a devastating week as the Southern part of the country was hit by **hurricane Katrina**. It is at times like this that we must pull together and help those in need. The **Central Valley** has certainly stepped up to that challenge. I was proud to learn that **Bakersfield firefighters, cleanup crews and volunteers** are on their way to the gulf coast to aid in the rescue efforts. I spent part of my Thursday evening at **KCRA (NBC) Channel 3** in **Sacramento** answering phones to raise money for hurricane victims. It's important to remember that every bit we do helps. If you are looking for a way to help, I encourage you to go to www.redcross.org. Please encourage your family, friends and neighbors to do the same.

As for me, it's been a good week in Sacramento. On Monday, we began the final two weeks of the **2005 legislative session**. My colleagues and I are reviewing, debating and voting on literally hundreds of pieces of legislation.

During the week I had some visitors from the **Valley** stop by my Capitol Office, though not nearly as many as we normally do because we were in session all week. **Sierra Club** Members from the **Kern Kaweah chapter** stopped by on Monday while **Ruth Evans, Steve Geil, Steve Newvine, Eric Johnson, Victoria Salisch** and **Amy Huerta** from the **Fresno Chamber of Commerce** stopped by my office on Tuesday.

LEGISLATION

It was a great legislative week for us. The Governor signed into law **AB 208**, introduced by the late **Assemblymember Mike Gordon** (D-EI Segundo) and I. **AB 208** requires school districts to give preference to the children of **military personnel** in the process of an inter-district transfer.

We introduced this legislation to help remedy the problems military families face when transferred to military installations in California. Military children frequently experience difficulties gaining admission into high quality school districts. There are specific cases in which members of the Armed Forces

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have not accepted transfers to California bases simply due to historic difficulties with the state's education system. AB 208 will become law on **January 1, 2006**.

Below you will find a list of my bills that were approved by various committees this week.

ACR 86 'ICE' In Case of Emergencies will urge all Californians to use the acronym '**ICE**' (In Case of Emergency) when selecting individuals from their cell phone directories to be contacted in case of emergencies.

Status: Passed by the Assembly. Headed to the Senate Rules committee.

ACR 88 California Firefighters Memorial Day will designate October 15, 2005, as California Firefighters Memorial Day and urge all Californians to remember firefighters who have given their lives in the line of duty and express appreciation to those who continue to protect the state against fires.

Status: Passed by the Assembly. Headed to the Senate Rules committee.

AB 437 Megan's Law Conviction-Date on Web will require that an individual's conviction and prison release date be available on the Megan's law database.

Status: Passed by the Senate. Headed to the Governor's desk.

AB 460 Vet Quarantine will strengthen the ability for the State Veterinarian to implement quarantines to stop any outbreak from spreading rapidly. The bill will act as a preventative measure by creating standards for sanitation.

Status: Passed by the Senate. Headed to the Governor's desk.

AB 706 CSU Whistleblower Protections will allow the Cal State University system to shield an employee's identity and confidentiality when filing a complaint to avoid retaliation.

Status: Passed by the Senate. Headed to the Governor's desk.

AB 1110 Home-to-School Transportation Block Grant will ensure that the most under-funded educational state program, home-to-school transportation, be given desperately needed funding. The bill will ensure that school transportation also be given a yearly cost of living increase. This would benefit rural school districts who have disproportionately higher transportation costs because they serve fewer students per square mile and as a result, must transport greater numbers of pupils over longer distances.

Status: Passed by the Senate. Headed back to the Assembly for amendments and concurrence vote.

EVENTS

As our **2005 legislative session** comes to a close I will be spending a great deal of time in the district. This month in particular, I will be visiting several small businesses and attending Rotary meetings throughout my district. As exact times and dates are set, I will keep you posted. Below you will find some of the events I will be hosting and attending. Stay tuned as more are coming soon.

September (Tentative)

- **Agri Business Kick-Off Luncheon** – September 13th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Tulare County Fairgrounds located at 2215 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. Tulare, CA 93274
- **Kingsburg Elected Officials Meeting** – September 14th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Salazar's located at 345 Sierra St. Kingsburg, CA 93631
- **Dolores Huerta Foundation Celebrity Golf Tournament** – September 14th from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the River Lakes Golf Course in Bakersfield located at 5201 Riverlakes Dr. Bakersfield, CA 93312
- **Ninth Annual Graduation and Commencement Exercises of the Tulare County Adult Drug Court** - September 15th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Visalia Convention Center located at 303 East Acequia St. Visalia, CA 93291
- **Constitution and Citizenship Day** – September 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Kings River Hardwick School located at 10300 Excelsior Ave. Hardwick, CA
- **Retirement Dinner for Kings County Veterans Service Officer Ron Dicken** - September 16th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Elk's Lodge located at 506 North Douty. Hanford, CA 93230
- **11th Annual "Salute to Agriculture" Banquet** - September 16th from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce located at 20051 Lacey Blvd. Lemoore, CA 93245
- **Association of California School Administrators – Kings Charter Fall Conference** – September 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at West Hills College (Lemoore site) located at 555 College Ave. Lemoore, CA 93245
- **Las Fiestas Mexican Independence Day Parade** - September 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The parade will begin on the corner of 22nd and Chester in Bakersfield, CA.

- **Police Activities League** – September 17th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Petroleum Club located at 5060 California Ave. Bakersfield, CA 93309
- **Corcoran Annual Cotton Festival Parade** - September 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Downtown Corcoran. The parade is set to begin on Dairy Ave.
- **2005 Hispanic Heritage Awards Banquet and Ball** – September 24th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn located at 9000 West Airport Dr. Visalia, CA 93277

ID THEFT COMMUNITY FORUMS

I will be hosting identity theft community forums in **Bakersfield** and **Kingsburg**. We will be discussing important information you need to know about protecting yourself from identity theft so I encourage all of you to attend. Location, times and dates can be found below.

Kingsburg – September 24th

Kingsburg Memorial Park
Corner of Sierra and 18th St.

Time 8:00 a.m. -9:30 a.m.

For more information please contact Matt Rogers at (559) 585-7170 or Matt.Rogers@asm.ca.gov

Bakersfield – October 21st

The Richard Prado Senior Center
2101 Ridge Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93305

Time: Noon – 2:00 p.m.

For more information please contact Manuel Barrera at (661) 334-3745 or Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov

GUN SAFETY SEMINAR

On **October 22nd**, I will host a **Gun Safety Seminar** at **Burris Park** in **Kingsburg**. I encourage all of you to attend as we will be discussing important safety tips and new gun laws we should all be familiar with. Trigger locks will be given out for free. Burris Park is located at 6500 Clinton Ave, Kingsburg, CA 93631. For more information please contact Frank Stiger at (559) 585-7170 or at Frank.Stigers@asm.ca.gov .

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

‘ICE’ IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES

Give emergency personnel another tool in providing you with the necessary medical services by using ‘ICE’. It only takes a minute. All you have to do is enter the acronym ‘ICE’ with a name and phone number into your cell phone’s address book of the individuals you would like to be contacted in case of an emergency.

CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

The first official meeting of the “California Partnership for the San Joaquin

Valley” will be held **Friday, September 16th** at the University of the Pacific in **Stockton** from **1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** This meeting is open to the public so I encourage all of you to attend.

OUTSTANDING ASSEMBLYMEMBER AWARD

I was excited to learn that I was named Outstanding Assembly Member of 2005 by the **California State Sheriffs’ Association**. I must say that I am truly honored to be recognized by a group of individuals who dedicates their lives to protecting the public.

SENIOR FIELD REPRESENTATIVE WANTED

There is an opening for a Senior Field Representative position in my Bakersfield District Office. The position requires an individual who can act as official representative and liaison between the community and my office. Two to three years of management experience is recommended. Those interested can send their resume to my Chief of Staff Cynthia León by fax at 916-319-2130 or by email cynthia.leon@asm.ca.gov .

GRANTS

My office is distributing grant packages. Included in each package is information regarding, state, federal and private grants. To pick one up or have one mailed to you please contact Juan Cerda at (661) 334-3745 or by e-mail at Juan.Cerda@asm.ca.gov

INTERNS WANTED

I am accepting applications for the fall internship program in my **Hanford** and **Bakersfield** district offices. Candidates should be residents of the 30th Assembly District, possess solid research and communication skills, have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the Central Valley.

Applications can be found by going to:

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For more information please contact Matt Rogers at the Hanford District Office at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at Matt.Rogers@asm.ca.gov. For Bakersfield office internships please contact **Manuel Barrera** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov

Email: Assemblymember.Para@assembly.ca.gov

Web Site: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

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